

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00609 220428Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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O 220316Z FEB 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9681

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00609

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBCR, SO, ET, UNSC, OAU

SUBJECT: HORN OF AFRICA: WESTERN FIVE MEETING FEB 21

REF: LAGOS 2181

1. WESTERN FIVE REPRESENTATIVES MET AT UK SUGGESTION
FEB 21 TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON POSSIBLE SECURITY COUNCIL
ACTION ON HORN. UK SAID UKUN WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM
OWEN TO PRESS FOR SC ACTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE
CONCLUSION OF THE OAU MINISTERIAL MEETING IN TRIPOLI
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(RESCHEDULED FEBRUARY 20-28). IN REPORTING REACTIONS FROM
POSTS, MURRAY SAID MAURITIAN PRIMIN RAMGOOLAM HAD
PROMISED TO SEND PERSONAL MESSAGES TO BONGO AND OBSANJO
RECOMMENDING SC ACTION. HMG ALSO SAW SOME POSITIVE SHIFT
IN REACTIONS OF NIGERIA AND GABON.

2. FRANCE REPORTED THAT GABON REMAINED AMBIVALENT. PRES-

IDENT BONGO WAS WORRIED ABOUT SOVIET/CUBAN INTERVENTION, BUT WAS NOT CONVINCED THAT SC ACTION WAS "TIMELY". HE WAS IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH WESTERN DRAFT "ELEMENTS".
3. US RELAYED RELATIVELY MORE POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF COMMISSIONER BARBA CONCERNING SC ACTION, DRAWING ON REFTEL.

4. FIVE REACHED FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS:

- A) AFRICAN ATTITUDE TOWARD SC MEETING REMAINED KEY TO GAINING SUPPORT OF NON-ALIGNED AND CHINA; THE ATTITUDE OF KEY AFRICAN LEADERS SEEMED MORE POSITIVE, BUT THERE WAS LITTLE PROSPECT OF AFRICAN ACQUIESCENCE IN SC ACTION BEFORE THE END OF THE TRIPOLI MEETING (REPORTEDLY FEB 28);
- B) GENERAL REACTION TO THE DRAFT "ELEMENTS" FROM CAPITALS SEEMED POSITIVE;
- C) IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO APPROACH THE GABONESE, NIGERIAN AND MAURITIAN MINISTERS AGAIN IN TRIPOLI DURING THE OAC MEETING. SUCH AN APPROACH SHOULD NOT BELABOR DETAILS OF DRAFT "ELEMENTS" BUT SHOULD KEY ON FIVE'S BELIEF THAT SC ACTION AND OAU EFFORTS COULD COMPLEMENT AND REINFORCE EACH OTHER. THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN TRIPOLI SHOULD APPROACH GABON, THE UK, MAURITIUS AND THE US NIGERIA.

5. FRANCE REITERATED VIEW FROM PARIS THAT FRANCE WOULD NOT COSPONSOR DRAFT RESOLUTION AS NOW CONCEIVED BUT COULD AND WOULD HELP PUSH FOR A SC MEETING.

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6. DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE REQUESTED RE SUGGESTION PARA 4(C).
YOUNG

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Message Attributes

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